

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 108992 TOSEC 040264
ORIGIN SS-25

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 108992 TOSEC 040264

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, IZ, US

SUBJECT: IMPROVING RELATIONS WITH IRAQ: PRESIDENTIAL
MESSAGE

REF: SECTO 4044

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S MESSAGE TO
THE IRAQI PRESIDENT WHICH UNDER SECRETARY HABIB IS
AUTHORIZED TO CARRY WITH HIM TO BAGHDAD IF THE IRAQIS
APPROVE HIS TRIP, AND DELIVER IT THERE:

2. BEGIN TEXT: HIS EXCELLENCY, AHMAD HASSAN AL-BAKR,
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF IRAQ, BAGHDAD

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:

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I CONSIDER IT ESSENTIAL THAT THE UNITED STATES FOLLOW A
POLICY OF DEVELOPING THE WIDEST POSSIBLE GOOD RELATIONS
WITH COUNTRIES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. TRADE AND COMMERCE
BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND IRAQ HAVE BEEN GROWING,
AS HAVE CONTACTS BETWEEN OUR TWO PEOPLES. MANY IRAQI

STUDENTS STUDY IN THE UNITED STATES. I WOULD LIKE TO SEE
A WIDENING OF OUR RELATIONSHIP INTO OTHER FIELDS.

I WAS THEREFORE GRATIFIED THAT YOUR GOVERNMENT AGREED TO
RECEIVE MR. PHILIP C. HABIB, UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR
POLITICAL AFFAIRS. I ASKED HIM TO ARRANGE FOR THE
DELIVERY OF THIS MESSAGE TO YOU DURING HIS VISIT TO YOUR
CAPITAL.

WITH MY FULL AUTHORITY, MR. HABIB IS PREPARED TO EXPLORE
WITH YOUR GOVERNMENT VARIOUS WAYS IN WHICH THE UNITED
STATES AND IRAQ MIGHT IMPROVE RELATIONS. A RELATIONSHIP
WHICH WOULD ALLOW US TO EXCHANGE VIEWS MORE FULLY ON THE
ISSUES WHICH ARE OF IMPORTANCE TO US BOTH WOULD BE, I AM
CONFIDENT, MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL. IT IS MY HOPE THAT YOU
AND YOUR GOVERNMENT WILL IN THIS SAME SPIRIT DECIDE THAT
THE TIME HAS ARRIVED FOR OUR TWO COUNTRIES TO MOVE TO A
NORMAL AND OPEN RELATIONSHIP. SINCERELY,
JIMMY CARTER. END TEXT. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 13-May-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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